

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 098883
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SO, US, SOPN

SUBJECT: SOMALI OFFICIALS' REACTION TO COLUMNIST JOSEPH
KRAFT

1. AMBASSADOR ADDOU HAS INFORMED COUNTRY DESK THAT HE HAS RECEIVED A COMPLAINT FROM MINISTER OF INFORMATION ABDISALAM SHEIKH HUSSEIN CONCERNING COLUMNIST JOSEPH KRAFT, WHO RECENTLY VISITED MOGADISCIO. AMBASSADOR ADDOU EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY URGED THAT THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO KRAFT'S NEEDS WHILE IN MOGADISCIO AND, AS A RESULT, MINISTER ABDISALAM HAD ARRANGED A DINNER FOR MR. KRAFT TO WHICH HIGH SOMALI OFFICIALS HAD BEEN INVITED. HOWEVER, MR. KRAFT REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO ATTEND, SAYING HE WOULD NOT COME UNLESS HE COULD FIRST SEE PRESIDENT SIAD. ADDOU MADE THE POINT THAT MINISTER ABDISALAM WAS THE LOGICAL APPROACH TO PRESIDENT SIAD AND, IN ADDITION TO AN ACT OF DISCOURTESY TO ONE OF MINISTERIAL RANK, KRAFT HAD NOT IMPROVED HIS CHANCES OF A PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT BY SUCH A RESPONSE.

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2. ADDOU INFORMS US HE IS SENDING AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN A COMMERCIAL CABLE ON THIS SUBJECT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY SMOOTHING ANY FEATHERS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN RUFFLED DURING MR. KRAFT'S VISIT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: JOURNALISTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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